Message

From: Chancellor, Erin [chancellor.erin@epa.gov]
Sent: 4/4/2019 10:12:22 PM
To: toby.baker@tceq.texas.gov
CC: Stephanie Bergeron Perdue [Stephanie.Bergeron_Perdue@tceq.texas.gov]; Ferrell Fields [Ferrell.Fields@tceq.texas.gov]; Steven Schar [Steven.Schar@Tceq.Texas.Gov]; Gray, David [gray.david@epa.gov]
Subject: PFAS Statement

Hi all,

Although not included in David's testimony, we have prepared a response if asked about PFAS. Below is the statement David will read if asked, the background info he will provide if asked, and the statement we will put on the EPA website later this evening.

PFAS Trend Statement
After conducting surface water sampling for PFAS, EPA has found that concentrations are highest at the confluence of Tucker Bayou and Buffalo Bayou, which is closest to where PFAS from firefighting foam entered the water. EPA's analysis of the preliminary data show that concentrations in the surface water are trending downward over time and distance downstream from the confluence.

Background
- EPA is posting preliminary data to ensure the public is aware of the results.
  - It is important to note that samples are still undergoing quality assurance review and the data may change once this review is complete.
  - EPA typically waits until it has completed its quality assurance processes before it makes data available.
  - However, EPA is making the preliminary data available now so that the public has access to this critical information as quickly as possible.
- EPA tested for 24 types of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), including PFOA and PFOS, using Method ASTM D7979.
- Near the confluence, PFOA and PFOS samples taken on March 23, 2019 were 68.8 ng/L and 2020 ng/L, respectively.
  - The most recent sampling from the same location on April 2, 2019 provided concentrations of 10.6 ng/L (PFOA) and 172 ng/L (PFOS).
- Preliminary background data from upstream of the spill also showed PFAS.
  - These concentrations are unrelated to the ITC incident, and are only slightly lower than current downstream concentrations of PFAS in the surface water.
  - For example, background concentrations for PFOS ranged from 164 to 192 ng/L and for PFOA ranged from 11.2 to 12.7 ng/L.

PFAS Web Statement
After conducting surface water sampling for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), EPA has found that concentrations are highest at the confluence of Tucker Bayou and Buffalo Bayou, which is closest to where PFAS from firefighting foam entered the water. EPA's analysis of the preliminary data show that concentrations in the surface water are trending downward over time and distance downstream from the confluence. EPA tested for 24 types of PFAS, including PFOA and PFOS, using Method ASTM D7979. Preliminary background data from upstream of the spill also showed PFAS. These concentrations are unrelated to the ITC incident, and are only slightly lower than current downstream concentrations of PFAS in the surface water. For example, background concentrations for PFOS ranged from 164 to 192 ng/L and for PFOA ranged from 11.2 to 12.7 ng/L.

EPA is posting preliminary data to ensure the public is aware of the results. It is important to note that samples are still undergoing quality assurance review and the data may change once this review is complete. EPA typically waits until it has completed its quality assurance processes before it makes data available. However, EPA is making the preliminary data available now so that the public has access to this critical information as quickly as possible.

Have fun tomorrow,

Erin E. Chancellor
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